

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:197
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2001
ILLEGAL DIAMOND MINING
P.R. KHUTE;PUNNULAL MOHALE

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that mines mafia are engaged in the illegal mining of diamond at Devbhog in Chhatisgarh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken against those found involved in such illegal mining; and
- (d) the preventive steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL)

(a) to (d): Instances of illegal mining in different States are brought to the notice of Central Government from time to time. Responsibility for checking illegal mining, if any, rests with the State Governments. Several provisions exist in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 to curb illicit mining. Moreover, to further strengthen the provisions in this regard, under recently introduced Section 23C of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, State Governments have been empowered to make rules for preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals.